

CMD Episode 13: Dinner with the Kokkas, Spotify Wrapped, and Other Things

Transcribed with Otter.ai, please excuse typos and errors

Michelle 00:00

It comes Kari coming down the stairs cascading down the stairs like some kind of slumber queen, that she was just like, Oh, you're here. I didn't hear the doorbell I didn't know. I was like, alright, handful. And that's how we got here. And that was two hours ago. And we're just now recording. And I

Kari 00:17

feel really bad because I decided to wreck my eye. And I fell asleep Hi, everybody, and welcome to episode 13 of the critical mass drop podcast, with your favorite math teachers, Kari Kokka,

Michelle 00:41

and Michelle Cody. Yo, it's the end of the year or kind of 2024 is rapidly approaching us. I remember last episode, the one with me. And we talked about signing up for the blessed and highly favored Oh yeah, Diane for, for talking to me for it. And Matt is still on our mission. But before we go, you know how Spotify always does like wrap up at the end of the year about the music that you listen to. And so the end of the year, it's either super cringe, or you realize that he's like together because it's like, why am I listening to so many of the same songs. And what I didn't realize about myself is I live in two camps. I mean, they listen to Christian music or Knuck If You Buck music so clearly that's kind of wraps up how my life back you know, like, just like ready to fight. You know, John and like, just like, oh my god, I'm writing.

Kari 01:39

I didn't know you listen to Christian music.

Michelle 01:40

Oh, yeah, I do. I do. I do. I love a little bit of gospel music. I think that it's like, It preys on my spirit. Because I mean, they're going to

Kari 01:48

Yeah, well, I think gospel is different than Christian music

Michelle 01:54

whilst in the gospel music. Okay, okay. Okay. Okay. Okay. Well, quite frankly, I'm a little you know, 1000s like, I its own rotation. Also, you know, I also, yeah, I have a lot of different songs. And I remember actually being in college, my friends used to laugh at me, because my playlists back in the days in college would be like, Thank You, Jesus. And I feel like they're getting mixed together. And that

just shows the complexity of who I am as a person as a human. So anyways, now that we are podcasts were the shot. First of all shout out that we have podcasts on Apple on Spotify. We are also on Live Nation,

Kari 02:41

I Heart Radio,

Michelle 02:42

I Heart Radio, sorry, I Heart Radio. And there's a fourth one that I recently saw. I was like, Ooh, being seen on that. In, in an attempt for you to be like, Let me listen to them and all of these things. Like just click on click on all of these things. Sign up, subscribe. What's

Kari 02:59

the fourth one? I can't remember which or something like that.

Michelle 03:03

I don't remember. I was just like driving. I was like, oh, that's another place that we can post our stuff. Um, for our 27 followers. Oh my god, Carrie. First of all, y'all were like, live and in person.

Kari 03:15

Sitting in person in Santa Fe.

Michelle 03:19

I drill. Oh, I'm actually going to tell the story. Okay. I

Kari 03:23

figured we should actually no, it's okay. I don't care. Yeah. So bear with me.

Michelle 03:28

I feel bad. I mean, like, so I've been having an interesting week. Last Monday, I was driving on the freeway to 80 Thank God, there was no traffic, my tire blew. And then I had to like ask my dad to come get me because I'm still asking my dad to help. To watch my mom actually decided to get me AAA. For Christmas. She was like a police troubleshooting. And she was like, I got to the 200 miles. So that's right. If you ever just chatted with me, we out here we can be LFR and we still get home. That's exciting. Um, but then my battery died the next day. And the following day, like I was buying snacks for the students because I run Student Government, my school. And I was at Costco buying house next to these little beautiful humans. And my phone either dropped or cracked, or one of those boxes fell on top and it's cracked my screen. And then so I called to get my screen fix. To which Verizon was like, oh, JK, we actually dropped your screen protection plan in August. And I was like, wait, what? So they're like if I can get your screen fixed was like \$150 So I had to have this like whole conversation and it'd be like I didn't sign up payments. So I'm here working on half a screen and phone like sometimes I screw turns on halfway. Sometimes it doesn't turn on at all. It has to me going back to my inner Mapquest a girl gotta figure out how to get places and remember, so she it was like to come down to San Jose. And I was like, Hey, I was coming out in person. And we're recording person. And so in my car, my phone

works because I have this, I, you know, have the screen. I have the screen in my car. So I'm able to like put that stuff in. And so here I am putting the Karis address in. And I get down here. I get down here, y'all. And something taught me I was like, let me just look and see what accident was like get off on. And so it told me extra like 288 or something. And then my, my screen decided to overheat because I had the heater on and it was like, and I was like, oh, so I'm really trying to figure out how to get their house. Right. And so I get off I get I have like three x's I have to choose from because they all three x's have the same number, but not the same name. And I was like, I'm just gonna try to figure this out. I get to off the freeway, I turned off my car, turn it back on again. And suffice to say I chose the right one. So here I am driving to Carrie's house, I get there. Right. And I just want to be like very clear, like, trailers in a really nice neighborhood. And you know, I am, you know, I am a black woman. So in this world, I get very nervous about just going to people's houses, and knocking on people's doors because I'm trying to be on an ICE T shirt or statistic or hashtag, right. And so I get to the house and outside our house, she definitely has something that's says Hawaiian. On the outside. I was like, I think this is a house, I looked at the Oh, pause. I have no cell reception. So I get your house and myself like my cell phones, like I don't want to work anymore. So poot. And I was like, great. So you know, when you open up your email, you're still able to like see all emails that you open up. So I got her address. I go to the front, I ring the doorbell, and she has one of those rings and like, earrings, earrings. I was like, Man, I'm not trying to anybody's horror movie. It rings again. And then it goes. We're not here. Would you like to leave a message? Like, no, I don't know what to do. So yeah, I am like schlepping my stuff back to the car. And I was like, trying mind you, I have a broken screen. And I'm caving in like the touchscreen doesn't work. So I'm using the stylus to try to like haphazardly texture, email that might not go through and I'm like outside. We'll wait 20 minutes. Let me know. So I'm just sitting in the car. And I see like one neighbor roll by and I was like, Okay, I got about two more neighbors before I have to like, leave the premises because this whole like different situation. So I get out the car again. Because at this point, I'm like, I have to pee and I'm ready to like, you know, no harm, no foul. Like, I'm like, I hope she's not in the house on another podcast. So I ruined her one time. Earrings, earrings rings, and again, it doesn't do anything. And so like I'm just kind of standing there kind of stuck, like, do I drive the 15 minutes back to San Francisco? Do I try to find somewhere I could get reception? I don't know. What should I do? What should I do? And as I'm walking Karis, parents like pull into the driveway. And I'm sitting there with a box. Definitely our desk. I think that's your package. And your mom was at the car and I was like, I'm Eva Carrie. And her parents were wonderful. They had never seen that was great. And then here comes Carrie coming down the stairs cascading down the stairs like some kind of slumber queen. And she was just like, Oh, you're here. I didn't hear the doorbell. I didn't know. I was like alright, handful. And that's how we got here. And that was two hours ago. And we're just now recording and

Kari 08:36

I felt really bad because I decided that I was going to rest my eyes. And I fell asleep. She's sorry, Michelle.

Michelle 08:45

That's okay. I got I felt so bad. So I'm her mom is now my favorite coca ever. There we go. Hashtag you've dropped to third place.

Kari 08:54

We invited her she's sitting right there. She can hear us talking. She decided she does

Michelle 08:59

her. Right. That's her right. Okay, my friend. So anyway, so we're talking about I don't know how we got to this when we're talking about Spotify and into Spotify. I didn't know this. But Carrie, let me know that. It is the same thing for podcasters. And it kind of wraps up your year. So here are five cool things that Spotify told us about our podcasts. First of all, we are the top nine. podcast for over the top. Excuse me, we're the top podcast for none of our fans. That's right. And I'm pretty sure one of those is my mama better be my mama. Um, I don't know what that means. All people give us a fives. And that's how that makes it. Who knows. But

Kari 09:42

I think it's about how sometimes you listen. Yeah. Okay,

Michelle 09:45

well for 90 of you heatable humans out there. Thank you for choosing me every week.

Kari 09:53

They should email us or message us on Instagram so we can give them a shout out by should.

Michelle 09:57

If you want that first. Same. I think

10:00

one of them might be my student. Oh, okay. Okay, what's up UNLV grad Outstanding Graduate Award from President Whitfield at graduation.

Michelle 10:11

Oh, nice. Nice. Nice. Um, our number one episode. Our top episode is episode one. I have mixed feelings about that. I don't know if y'all listen to episode one. You're like, Oh, I'm done. I'm cool. No problem. And that's not the case. You need to finish the other episodes, friends. We got to be out here. Like every day, I'd be looking like, I want to one day get an email from from Apple or Potter or Spotify being like, Yo, we're trying to elevate you to the top. You're on the top. You're here. We didn't made it. A single thing our principals like, as soon as you make it, you're quitting. I'm quitting. I'm just gonna be extra. I'm gonna walk in like a diva. Like, did you watch my podcast? Even though I actually like I said, I haven't told you to my coworkers. Um, but they do your coworkers? No, I haven't maybe three or four of them. I'm like really, like secretive about my this is my secret life. The Secret Life of a podcast. Math teacher by day critical math and podcasted button nights. I'm actually like Mackey listened to one of his episodes with his girlfriend. Oh, yeah. We in the car and they actually listened. And I was like, really? It was like, Yeah, mom really? Oh, I don't know. Who knows? You know, teenagers. It says that we've created 284 Ms. content, but I don't know when they stopped that because I feel Yeah, that Matthew Matthew.

Kari 11:35

I think it was at the beginning of December. They did those stats. That math side

Michelle 11:39

of I am Athan and then for 19 of our folks for the top five. And for 27 of our folks, we have a top 10 So we are piercing. And I wonder if that nighttime in between seven are the same people are there different demographic? Oh, that's true. I don't know. I don't know if it's like 36 people that we out here and right. Right? Or if it's 27 people of those 2719. So I mean, it was cool. It felt good. So now that some people are out there are still jamming and vibing with this. And we have a lot more to say. We're kind of struggling a little bit with our webcams today. But we're here. Okay, so now we're like 12 minutes into this podcast and I've talked a whole bunch of times. That's okay. Kerry's gonna talk about our what'd you do dinner

Kari 12:31

party protocol?

Michelle 12:32

Yes, yes. I'm ready to listen. And I'm going to interject. This is Carrie, you have your Beyonce moment and I'm going to be Kelly and Michelle.

Kari 12:44

I love all of your analogies and metaphors. Yeah, so I did their critical math job dinner party protocol cards, so I printed them out. I cut them screaming color.

Michelle 12:57

No. Sorry, to Carrie's family. She didn't think enough of you to print them in color.

Kari 13:03

I cut them out. I put them you know, a little envelope. And then I asked everyone to choose a card or two that they could answer. You didn't

Michelle 13:11

lamine them either.

Kari 13:12

How do I how am I going to laminate that? I

Michelle 13:14

have a laminator at school. You know what? You know what? You are a college professor now so you've you've lost a lot of your street cred. I have like a printer and a laminator. I have like a half office at my house just in case. And middle of night. I'm filling.

Kari 13:28

I have a laminator at home. Yeah, I have one. Girl one of those 2999 Okay, I'm gonna target one of those shots

Michelle 13:39

will target Turkey gonna be a sponsor.

13:42

And so everyone picked one out. And my brother went first. And he answered about His proud math moment. He tried to have his kids also answers some of the questions. We just asked them their three and five. So we just asked them to answer like one word. Like, what are you grateful for one of the appreciation type ones. And then oh, my mom talked about how her relationship with math has changed. And she used to like she used to not like it that it was difficult. And then when she took math classes again at Michigan College, because she wanted to go into computer science. That's when she realized that she liked it and she thought it was a lot easier than before.

Michelle 14:27

I think that's interesting, because I feel like that is a strong significant part of the population, especially those who use math, who did math in college or use math at work. That they have some trauma in their math class because up until now and still some math classes Max taught very rote, like, memorize this and don't understand why you're doing it and let's not make a connection to why this is important. So for those of us who can memorize things and can kind of like, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, right? It makes sense for for those of us who need something to anchor it with, like most people, like, studies show that you, you learn things when you make you understand that your synapses are firing, and they make a connection, some of that you've already known. And so this whole idea of teaching math in the silo of just like, information, that it's not incrementing anything, it's just equivalent of throwing, throwing seeds on a barren grass, and some seeds are gonna plant some seeds are gonna grow. But the seeds that are actually like took the time to dig into something. And we're in whatever the cover by the by the ground, they're able to grow and have a stronger connection. We need to start looking at that.

Kari 15:44

Yeah. And that actually connects exactly to my dad's story, which was his seventh grade math teacher, Mrs. Murphy, told his class that when they were learning fractions, that they were going to use it later in their life. And my dad thought, like, no, that's really not true, but that he actually uses what he learned. But she did teach them in a rote way. So she taught them to memorize the decimal equivalent of every fraction. So they memorized all of those. So I thought at first when he said that she had his memorized fractions, that it was like, Okay, you're gonna memorize $\frac{1}{4}$ plus $\frac{1}{4}$ equals one half, or you know, something of that nature. But it was actually the decimal equivalents that they had to memorize.

Michelle 16:34

So I actually remember in high school, having to remember powers, and we had tests and I have to know, squares, squares, like square roots, and the squares, the squares, like, and I want to say we have to go all the way up to like, something like, it wasn't, that wasn't my geometry class. It was in some class that I had. And we got a quiz every day, and memorizing the squares. And I was like, This is stupid. Why do I need this? It is stupid. Let me be very clear. However, when I'm teaching math for the kids, there's definitely some squares that I'm able to be like, when we're talking about squares, and I'm,

we're talking about powers with the students and exponents. There's, you know, I got the first like, 30, like, memorize that can be like, boom, this is this. Because of that, so

Kari 17:25

yes, he I don't remember having to memorize things like

Michelle 17:27

that. That's the only thing I remember. I don't timetables,

Kari 17:31

I remember memorizing that. Yeah.

Michelle 17:35

I don't remember. I do not remember. Learning how to memorize timetables, but I know we did it. Because I know that this was, that was a thing that you you had to do. Right? And, and we went to school at the time where like, you standards were different. Like, if you didn't pass the standards, you didn't get moved on to the next grade. So these are things that like, actually, oh, to happen versus now. You know, we do more social promotion, especially until they get to ninth grade, which I have mixed feelings about it. But it's definitely a rug to be pulled under a kiddo who's not been given the structure to be successful? And it failed classes, fail classes, middle classes. Yeah.

18:19

Because then they come to high school teachers. And you know, I used to teach high school. Yeah. And I feel like kids didn't really understand like, oh, you actually you actually need to pass this, because that's what all their other teachers told them also, but it just was like,

Michelle 18:34

all the time. Like, you want to pass these classes like the doctor pass, you have to try to end

Kari 18:39

up not being true if the school is actually just doing social promotion. That's why then when they get to high school, it's like, they don't believe you. Yeah,

Michelle 18:46

and it's, it's it's unfair, because I don't Yeah, it's just unfair for students. Because yeah, I also had a little bit of a traumatic math experience.

18:55

Yes. So he, when he was in college, he was taking a math class and Okay, mind you, my my dad is really into my he was an accountant for his whole career. And he asked the professor questions about the content, and the professor decided to go on a tirade, yell at him about students don't pay attention, blah, blah, and my dad decided to drop the class.

Kari 19:26

So I think a lot of people have those experiences with teachers and professors trying to be

Michelle 19:33

Oh my God, when I linked a story, can I just say this? I definitely reflect on like, oh my god, someday I'm gonna be somebody's story that they're telling the table because I'm pretty sure I've tested students they'll be like, if you weren't paying attention, I just said there's, there's so many memes about like, so there's there's two camps. There's the camps of like people who like shame kids for not understanding the content. And that's horrible like shaming a kid for not understanding something is absolutely the antithesis of what you're supposed to be doing as a classroom teacher, right? And then there's a camp of like, No, I just said this instructions, like four times, I wrote in a smoke signal I like I also, like, I wrote it, I said it on

Kari 20:20

the handout, the handout like your classmates,

Michelle 20:24

about it right there in front of everybody. It was amazing. It was magical. And you still are like, what are we doing? And so I think that we have to like pause as like human educators to be like, is this person asking us a question? Because they actually don't understand the content? Or are they asking this question because they weren't paying attention. And the fact that your dad was in college experience, and that seems like it's a little bit more of the like, the, the teacher was out of pocket for now they come in at a college student, even though college students are Sol are sometimes interesting humans too. But it was it was like it made an impact. Right, but it didn't stop your right to continue to pursue a mathematical like degree and career career. So it doesn't. It didn't stop him. However, if you're somebody who's on the bubble, that little side comment, right? Because you've already not math would have been that little comment. Could be like, well, there you go. The professor said, I can't do it. So that means I can't do it. And so we have to be mindful of like, you know, I think this is such an inappropriate comment. I'm gonna say it anyway. He, I think about Big smiles when he was talking about the landlord was, first of all, I'm not condoning selling drugs. But in this song, if you don't know now, you know, he talks about, like, how somebody was calling the cops when he was just trying to sell drugs, a fetus child, not the same equivalent, I'm talking I'm not saying selling drugs is not not saying that. But what, but that moment, that memory stuck out to him and that for him to like, repeat it on a song. And so there are moments there are interactions that these babies have. And when I use our babies, I mean, K through any learner that have that that can hit the chord, and get people to be like, it's been an impact to me so much that either I either use it as a trampoline to jump off more, I use it as quicksand. So the dichotomy is real.

Kari 22:41

Yeah. And there's a scholar who does work on that, that I don't remember their name. But yeah, it's real. Maybe we can find that. Yeah. My scholar sister, Dr. Rochelle Gutierrez has mentioned the person's work and I don't recall.

Michelle 23:00

So you do this again? If your homies so yes.

Kari 23:02

Oh, wait. Okay, so I do should I share my story too, that I Oh, yeah. Okay, so the story, the question that I answered was, who has been most influential to your math learning, and I said that it was my mom. And

Michelle 23:16

your mom did not have an all sweetie moment at all. She hadn't yet a little bit of smart comment. I appreciate I was like, Okay. She

Kari 23:25

said, okay, so what my mom said was, my mom said I was being a smart aleck. So she decided to give me a math problem that she thought I couldn't figure out. So she gave me 25 times 25. She said, she said I was able to figure it out before she did it in the calculator, which that must have included time to look at the Go get the calculator. Yeah, because I was like, that doesn't I don't understand. And I my recollection, what I think that I did was I was using tick marks to count for quarters would make \$1. So I would do for 20 fives was 100. Right? And then I counted all the way up to and I counted 25 tick marks. And then I realized I had the five bundles, and then one extra 25 to be 525. Right, because the four quarters makes 100. Yay.

Michelle 24:27

Yeah. Yeah, so I would have done out affect them. And now I would have done I would have broke the 20 up and I would have said 20 times 10 is 220 times 10 is 220 times by which is five 100 100. But then I'm missing and do that right?

Kari 24:56

Because there's the 20 There's the five left five turns five left. Oh, wow. Yeah,

Michelle 25:05

I would have just said five times five. I would have been that. Yeah. I would have done. Oh, no. Okay, I would have been okay. I would have been, this is what I would have done 20 times 10 20 times 10. Yeah. And then I would have done 25 times five, without to give me 125. And then 400 was 200 was 200. Is 400. Plus 125. Again, 525. Hmm. But I think

Kari 25:35

what she gave it to me, you did the, I think I don't think I was even old enough to do that to do that yet. I think I was. I was probably like, not even in kindergarten? Or I don't know, we'll have I'll have to ask her.

Michelle 25:48

Oh, that was you doing 25 times 25. But I did it with

Kari 25:52

tick marks. That's how I did it with tic marks. Because I wasn't I wasn't advanced enough yet to do it that way. That's

Michelle 26:00

so amazing. And it's interesting, because I also read stuff like when you give younger students more complicated or what you perceive to be more complicated. Reasoning problems unnecessarily math, but like reasoning, they approach things differently. And they're more open to their approach and not so saddled, it's the same thing. If you do the marshmallow tower mean tip, it's like, yeah, they said that people who do the absolute best are like kindergarteners and first graders how to work together, and they're open and filter to the worst or like lawyers and like architects, because people are so caught up in life, is that there's a specialization, right? Like, when when you're not feeling well, the reason why you go to a generalists is because the generalist is able to, like, look at things openly, like let me do all the cabinets. But you would never go to a cardiologist when you have a headache. Because a cardiologist is always going to look at the heart when it's actually your brain. And so this notion of just like, sometimes we get so embedded in the specialization of something that we don't, we're not able to look at the full picture. And you know, it might actually also run through with like, there's this different myths about elementary school teachers, because they do have to teach everything, and they have to make sure things are more connected for the students versus when, like content might more be more difficult in middle school, in high school and in college, the content might be more difficult, but their ability to like, understand and appreciate teaching, most foundational stuff is way more complicated. I believe in the K five world well

27:48

and my mom, I have to ask her because remember, I told you that my mom got her teaching certification. She stayed an extra year SSD, to get her certification. And I don't know, I think it was Elementary. So maybe she also had some type of understanding to have teaching strategies. Because I mean, she I also used to be her navigator. So the story that you told about Mapquest so for people who are as old as Michelle and I are

Michelle 28:20

sorry, curious, I'm older.

Kari 28:27

But we used to drive with maps. Yeah, we used to drive with maps, like,

Michelle 28:31

maps. I didn't drive in. But yes, we used unit

Kari 28:35

Oh, I am Oh, I hadn't met when my car I met quite No, I had books of maps and actual my family,

Michelle 28:42

my parents and my family. But when I started actually driving, but I also drove I started driving, okay, so you were up in the city, like I started driving late, I think San Francisco was after 18 or something. But now I do remember, like, I do remember going on road shows with my family. And my grandmother, like can also just talk about, like, the different roads and how to figure out these places. And it's so

interesting, because there was so much mathematical reasoning about like mapping, and being able to get to point A to point B, that people again, like, you know, this is like my bread and butter with this podcast. Like, I just want to normalize all things mathematical. And that's just one of the things like being able to get to places to read a map to understand distance, to understand how far because those maps are, like, done incrementally like that. They're like they're supposed to be to scale. Yeah, yeah. And so like, you should be able to figure out like, how far this point A is to point B, based off of like measurement and just like the fact that they were to win this. And now like, we don't I mean, this goes back to me saying like, I know a lot of numbers. Oh, a lot of phone numbers. Because growing up, I didn't have a cell phone. And I just continued to do it. Like I just tried to dial people's numbers without scrolling. Like, I've tried to, like, put their numbers in to kind of like, memorize that stuff, because it's an important skill. Because when your phone dies, or you're stranded, right, and you're like, all I can call this 911, because that's the only number that I am familiar familiar with. And I make that connection with like whole Mapquest. It's like, because with great technology, great advancements that have happened 100%. But how far do we have we gotten away from? Like, the basics, and the basics of understanding and how can we kind of like, Foster.

Kari 30:46

But the but the way that I navigated for her was because I only knew the alphabet. So I think I was like two or three. And she would give me the map, and she would tell me how to hold it. And she would say, Okay, we're looking for a street that starts with the letter A. And as we would go, she would tell me, the letters, the first letter, and I would look on the map to and I would read the letters of all of the streets to help her figure out when she needed to turn. Care, you know, but the only reason that I was doing that, but that's why I credit it to my mom. Right? Because my mom, she she I was her first child, like she didn't know, right, so she was like, Oh, let me just try it. Let me just see what happens. Yeah. And but I think all of those things that she just, like, kind of let me try like, oh, maybe, you know, let me teach her this. Let me teach her that because she didn't really know what I was supposed to be able to learn or not. I think it helped me because it made me like, interested in learning. You know, like, Oh, that's cool. Like I can actually help my mom. But she says I was like functionally helping her to navigate because my mom is not the best with direction. And so her toddler get from point A to point B, I'm not bad with directions out of sheer survival went from when I was a child. Yeah,

Michelle 32:07

I had a home EMF component in my hair in the streets. But I had a homie that we were aggressive. And she lived, like maybe 12. And so for me, getting off the freeway. Not hard. It was like you get on a freeway, you get off in like two stops, turn and turn and turn. Not hard. For like, a year. She was using navigation gets in my house when we were coming together. And I remember the first time I remember the first time she came to my house without navigation. I got here on I am so proud of you. But yes, she would get lost inside of a paperback. Very smart woman just directionally challenged in cells like Man, we need to work on your special awareness to help you figure out nothing but yeah, it's very interesting. But that's

Kari 33:03

why some kids are so good at geometry. Yes. Because they have that spatial awareness and they can visualize things in their head, like all different directions.

Michelle 33:13

little slight moment. Okay, so then you did it in harmony with your my friend who are all professors, PhD professors at

Kari 33:21

UNLV. Yeah, yes.

Michelle 33:23

And they had, they also have their own little math trauma, which is very interesting, because it kind of runs the gamut of like, your brother and your dad had have math careers. Your mom, for the most part was a stay at home mom, which is a super math career. Let me be very clear. My mom was a stay at home mom too. And they'd be doing all kinds of math that.

Kari 33:43

And then my mom became a banker. Oh, she did become a banker at BFA

Michelle 33:48

when Wow, were you when she was

Kari 33:49

a banker? Maybe High School.

Michelle 33:53

Okay, so when you were older,

Kari 33:55

and when I was when she was in college, she was a teller at Wells Fargo.

Michelle 33:59

Okay, so she also did math mathy stuff. But most of these stories that she's talking about was pre her. Yeah,

Kari 34:07

that's like when when she went to Mission College. That's that kind of sounds like that was when we were in elementary school. Yeah.

Michelle 34:15

So I guess I'm saying like, all those people have different potential life experiences while they're in the moment of having these math moments. And so the fact that they all kind of have these big math moments, it helps out, but yes.

Kari 34:34

And yeah, so my friends, all have PhDs. They're all professors at UNLV. And the thing that they shared was about their traumatic moments. taking math classes, both in high school and in college, and these nightmares that they had. Are we gonna are we gonna play the audio for this? Or do I need to tell the story enough? Without the audio?

Michelle 35:06

I mean, yeah, maybe we can,

Kari 35:09

I guess, I don't know if I should say their names or not because I didn't ask them first.

Michelle 35:16

Oh, you can we could

Kari 35:18

talk about added in later when we added. Or

Michelle 35:21

you could just talk about the split because it's, it's the important the drink, like talk about that dream sequence, I mean, you can still maybe can add that as a second, or whatever.

Kari 35:33

So two of my colleagues, and they were so surprised that they had the same exact dream, they have this dream that they didn't pass the class, their math class, or they wake up and they didn't realize that they were enrolled in a class and they have this test

Michelle 35:49

with Okay, so there was 211 says that, she woke up and said that she looked at her transcripts and realized that like, okay, that she failed a math class, and that she was going to have to go back to high school as a 30 year old human,

Kari 36:07

and they were going to have to take their class all over again, everyone said that one that you were talking about, Oh, the other degrees get taken away.

Michelle 36:14

Now, the first one said, all her degrees get taken away. The second one talks about when you suck while having to take a math class, and then upper division, or the upper division class plus the English, like they have to go back to college to do those classes, which the fact that they both are so far away from high school, and

Kari 36:36

undergrad. And also that math is not this arbiter of intelligence? Yes, at all, at all. So I think that that part is also really important for us to think about, for folks to think I think a lot of people know that. And I don't know why. No,

Michelle 36:56

I think that they know that on like a cardinal level. And all things are, things are true inside the multiverse. I mean, like, you know, this stuff, you know, like, my work is not attached to grades like, this is the thing I have with the kids all the time, I hate when kids email me like, how do I get an A in your class, or I'm an A student, and when parents are like, my child isn't a student? I'm like, Why? Why, like, why are we living in a very like?

Kari 37:25

Well, you know, it's so interesting, because I was listening to our episode 12 today, and we talked about this, you talked about this. And I think the thing is, is that it's still we still live in a capitalist society. And so because of capitalism, you have to get the certain grades to get into the college that you want to go to. And they're, they're ranked right, and like certain colleges are respected, and you want to go to the schools. And so you end up in this rat race, this capitalist rat race of trying to get these grades in order to have entrance into these spaces. Yeah,

Michelle 38:02

and sometimes those things are like, I mean, I like I have lots of pride about going to Howard as an HBCU experience, especially coming from California. But like, outside of me, like having the banner in my school because I'm a classroom teacher, and I talk about the collegiate experience, like I mean, that's not something that comes up like you don't go into, like people looking at your like work ethic and your experience and your, your ability to, to hold yourself. And this is a this is a big issue to like about what classes students need to take in order to be successful. And if you don't have statistics, or calculus, by the time you need to 12th grade, all of a sudden, like you're behind in life, and it is a hard pill to swallow. For students who are just trying to figure it out. And for somebody to tell you and a team that you haven't measured up to some arbitrarily marker that most of the adults will tell you probably didn't do it either. Right? And then you find yourself just like, it's not it's okay in this in this is, again, like, even though I'm speaking as assistants at this time, we have 206 subscribers listeners across on this component. I love it, I love it. If we can have these conversations with these 206 people, and have them have these conversations with one other person and just kind of like keep on talking to different people around like, let's normalize all of this stuffs. And it's not because we're trying to take away from people's math accomplishments. We're not trying to take away from people's astute or their ability, but we're just trying to make it so everyone can get it. Everyone can sit at the table like everyone should be able to sit down and get up from the table when they want to right ate. Like, I don't want to do this anymore. And that'd be pushed away from the table. And I think that that's, that's a that's a super important.

Kari 40:08

Yeah, yeah. So we hope everyone tries out the dinner party protocol.

Michelle 40:15

I know, it's like, political phones mess from Episode Nine, episode nine. That means that you have to listen beyond episode one. Hopefully. Hopefully when Spotify gives us our wrap up for 2024 A will have almost 60 episodes. No, we have 13 now so let's see if we do one a week. 52 weeks. So hopefully we'll have closer to like 70 episodes and and folks will be excited to listen and to share and all that. All That Jazz. Yeah. This is a this is a quick one.

Kari 41:05

Yeah, okay, that's good. Yeah. Cuz that means Hopefully, people will listen to the whole episode. Because you know, they give us stats around starts. And and what percentage how far people what's the average? Of how far people listen,

Michelle 41:25

so we need to keep it. We need to keep it a sitcom episode. What is that? 30 minutes is less than that. It's probably like 23 minutes. Oh, commercials and everything. This is this is probably closer to a one hour drama.

Kari 41:38

This is like a Netflix episode. Yeah. Yeah,

Michelle 41:41

no commercials, no breaks. But you can pass and go pee.

Kari 41:45

I did start I did continue watching more of lessons in chemistry. Oh,

Michelle 41:49

I like it.

Kari 41:50

I'm on up to oh, I guess I can't say I don't remember what episode and I guess I shouldn't say what happens because it gives it away for people. But I like it. I like it. I can say it's I'm at the part where she just started doing the show. Okay.

Michelle 42:09

It's a very complicated. So I appreciate it. So okay. Yeah,

Kari 42:17

it's good. My mom encouraged me to keep watching it.

Michelle 42:20

Okay, yeah, I think some shows you have to get over a hurdle of episode one and two, to kinda like really get invested. And I think that also because we've come from a binge culture to when you have to go back to watching every week. It's hard to be like, wait, you may have to wait all week for this. So

Kari 42:39

what happened with black Kate?

Michelle 42:41

I actually finished by kings actually that and I have so many questions. Oh my god help me question. Me too. I am gonna pick up the book. I actually didn't Oh, yeah, it's gonna buy the book for me and my coworker Miranda, who's not listening to this podcast because this one doesn't do podcasts and I appreciate them still love yester. You're still on my face. But I'm going to get the black cape pulled for us and I want us to kind of you know. Yeah. Is there anything else that we want to

Kari 43:12

Well, we want to wish everyone happy holidays with whatever you celebrate.

Michelle 43:17

I'm gonna say Happy Kwanzaa. Happy Kwanzaa baby. If you don't know Kwanzaa is it's tilde Q. Excuse me. I spelt that wrong. Okay, w a n za Kwanzaa seven days you're so good up Yeah, set some life goals I don't want to say New Year's resolutions because I got 14 Well it just after 14 days people kind of give up so I say set some like goals and reflect and come back again and we will continue to support that you know ask him how you doing every once in a while on this podcast? Like how are you going with your life goal is it are you doing supposed to be doing to make yourself the best version of yourself as possible?

44:03

And I think also to think about the things that did happen to you that were positive to reflect on the things that you are grateful for even if it was a hard year.

Michelle 44:15

Yes especially especially if those are your I have a some new teachers at my school and they're new to teaching and so if you don't know if you don't know no matter how great or how ready you think you are for being a classroom teacher, no matter how well versed you are in your contents. It is like being thrown into the ocean with summit with with cement shoes on just an invisible cement shoes, because we won't even know that you have it and so I towball for them. Well, I told one of them specifically, like, you know, you need to do not a gratitude jar, but like write down every time there's something good happened in the class and put it in a jar. And it's to like, every week, you can look at it. And also, visually, you'll see it growing. Because I think that that's super important. Because it's so easy to go to the negative. My culture has taught me that all the time, when we used to reflect on my lessons, the first thing I would be like, all these things went wrong. And he'd be like, well, let me do all the things that I thought was right. And so just having someone else to kind of help guide you. And this is someone who's been doing this thing for not as long as you Kari with.

Kari 45:39

I have been teaching for 24 years.

Michelle 45:43

Aim high for 22 years, since I was a wee bit lad. Um, so I think that it is important to just like, focus on that, and also take time and space to grieve, what you have experienced, and I think that grieving looks different for everybody. And it manifests itself differently. And sometimes it hits you unexpectedly in moments that you're like, where did that come from? And just kind of like owning that and processing that. Because that's also healing the body heals trauma, right? And so how are you taking care of yourself to not only like, Don't sunshine away your pain, because it also takes away from the things that you have experience, but also take a moment to count your blessings and named them one by one. That's an old little gospel song. Yeah. And Kari? We did this. Yeah. Oh,

Kari 46:45

I want to appreciate you, Michelle, for your patience with me today. Literal patients, waiting the minutes sitting outside my house. And for driving all the way down here to San Jose, so

Michelle 47:00

it's so out of the country.

Kari 47:04

So we engage with each other in person. Yeah, this is yeah, I appreciate your parents. Yeah.

Michelle 47:08

Because last time they disappeared

Kari 47:09

on me. Oh, that's true. I know.

Michelle 47:13

They're like little people, or else I was like,

Kari 47:17

Oh, no. We're gonna go out to dinner.

Michelle 47:19

Yeah, that's dinner. Because the childhood home care. He has a beautiful, a beautiful Christmas tree that I got to see through the window several times. As I was looking like a burglar trying to get to the house. That's okay. This is a story that we will definitely always talk about forever and ever and ever. I so appreciate you like for again for asking me to do this thing. You know, I'm and I appreciate how proud you are the podcast. Like even if, first of all, I would like listening to the podcast creates stress in me. And I know you always want me to listen to it before you prove it. And I like to be honest, I like to I like hit four points. I'm like, ooh, whoo. Okay. Didn't say anything offensive. Yeah, go ahead and post it because it just like, stresses me out listening to myself, but I appreciate it like how, like, proud and patient you are with our podcasts like you're, and I'm not. I'm not not proud. It's just I need to learn how to like lean into the light of when you're doing things. And I think that is something that women, especially women of color, have to kind of unlearn. And I And I'm, I'm very privileged of my parents, and they've always super, like proud and supportive Matthew, like. Like, even when I was younger, when I

was younger, he wasn't born. When he was younger and elementary school. Sometimes I would come to pick them up or have conferences and the teachers to be like, Yeah, I saw that video that you did. I was like, Wait, what are you talking about? And he used to, like, show people like your commercial? No, no, this is pre commercials. Like stuff I did with aim high on YouTube. Or just like, interviews or any kind of like, you know, like, show people that's so cute. You know, this is my mom. I don't think he probably me now. But you know, back in the day when he was a baby. He's a teenager Bless his heart. Yeah, so I appreciate you just kind of like just holding your own and really just like supporting, I mean, to be honest, this our episode with me is hell like because I mean, I tried 1,000,005 times to try to edit it and it was just a hot mess. And then Carrie was able to like zoom zoom zoom. So I did put the I did put

Kari 49:48

the laughing thing. Yes, you did. Did that I noticed. Yep. And I think I put another

Michelle 49:55

I think that's just a laughing thing. But clapping thing and

Kari 49:58

you did the Um, the audio clip in the beginning I did Yes. That's actually complicated to do. And yeah, everything

Michelle 50:05

else was a hot mess afterwards but I did those two things. So yeah, I appreciate I appreciate it I'm excited for this year 2024 to be the year of abundance and growth yeah in both our professional personal and I guess I say professional, personal health wise just growth abundance abundantly abundant. That is our plan. Yes. The

Kari 50:31

what is it called the in blessed and highly favored,

Michelle 50:33

blessed and highly favored plan? Yes, as a risk subscribing to Yes, we put our applications already that's the box we checked. No, thank you. Everything else was like, I am not a fan. And 2023 kicked my butt. And so I've done my I've done my part to pay my penance. Nothing more. I Kari Well, I'll see you in 2024. Yes. All right. Thanks, y'all.